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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/964,117	09/26/2001	Kevin Packingham	1730	1645
28005	7590	05/16/2005	EXAMINER	
SPRINT 6391 SPRINT PARKWAY KSOPHT0101-Z2100 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251-2100			SKED, MATTHEW J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2655	

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/964,117	PACKINGHAM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Matthew J Sked	2655	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/14/05.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The double patenting rejection is withdrawn in view of the applicant's amendments.
2. The objection to the specification is withdrawn in view of the applicant's amendments.
3. Claims 3 and 9 have been amended to more clearly claim the invention as a voice command system that uses multiple grammars dependent upon the voice applications wherein a subset of predefined correlations are used regardless of who is communicating and the voice application that is being processed.
4. Claims 1, 2 and 14-45 have been canceled.
5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 3-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 3-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alshawi in view of Cohen.

As per claim 3, Alshawi teaches a voice command system comprising:

a user communication interface for communication with users via a telecommunications network (computer telephony platform, paragraph 26);

a processor (Fig. 2, element 203);

an application-processing module executable by the processor to process voice command applications (Fig. 1, element 115), the voice command applications defining allowed grammars and application logic (context database contains a set of exemplar action specifications for each application program, paragraph 37);

a voice processing module executable by the processor to recognize grammars in speech signals received from a user via the user communication interface (recognizer, Fig. 1, element 106 and paragraph 30);

aliasing-logic executable by the processor, upon recognition of an alias grammar in a speech signal received from the user, to convert the alias grammar to an actual grammar, and to recognize the actual grammar as an allowed grammar defined by a voice command application (variation matcher matches the recognized word from the variant database with its corresponding exemplar and from there executes the application action, paragraph 32);

wherein the aliasing-logic uses a predefined set of correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars to convert between an alias grammar and an actual grammar (variant command file contains each exemplar for the context and all corresponding variants, paragraph 34); and

wherein the processor uses at least a subset of the predefined set of correlations regardless of the user who is communicating with the voice command system (variants present in database for all users, paragraph 78).

Alshawī does not teach the processor uses at least a subset of the predefined set of correlations substantially regardless of which voice command application the processor is processing.

Cohen teaches a web browsing system that uses a static grammar to assist the user in browser functions and further grammars are dynamically generated based upon the applications (paragraph 25).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Alshawī to use at least a subset of the predefined set of correlations substantially regardless of which voice command application the processor is processing as taught by Cohen because it would allow the system to perform speech recognition prior to a specific application being chosen hence giving the system greater capabilities.

8. As per claim 4, Alshawī teaches the aliasing-logic comprises user profile data that indicates, respectively for each of a plurality of users, correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars (users can customize the variant database, paragraph 74).

9. As per claim 5, Alshawī teaches the user profile data correlates a given actual grammar with a first alias grammar for a first user and the user profile data correlates the given actual grammar with a second alias grammar for a second user

(customization server contains customized context files for each user so each user would have different variants for the exemplars, paragraph 75).

10. As per claim 6, Alshawhi teaches:

a user profile store containing the user profile data (customization server contains customized context files, paragraph 75); and

personalization-logic executable by the processor for retrieving from the user profile store the correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars (when users uses the system the customized context will be available to the user hence an executable for retrieving these correlations would be inherent, paragraph 78).

11. As per claim 7, Alshawhi teaches the personalization-logic is executable by the processor to retrieve the correlations during a voice command session with the user (recognizer can dynamically load and switch between language models from the variant database, paragraph 30).

12. As per claim 8, Alshawhi teaches the personalization-logic is executable by the processor to retrieve the correlations at the initiation of the voice command session with the user (variants uploaded into the variant database after customization hence available at the initiation of the voice command session, paragraph 78).

13. As per claim 9, Alshawhi teaches a voice command system comprising:

a user communication interface for communication with users via a telecommunications network (computer telephony platform, paragraph 26);

a processor (Fig. 2, element 203);

an application-processing module executable by the processor to process voice command applications (Fig. 1, element 115), the voice command applications defining allowed grammars and application logic (context database contains a set of exemplar action specifications for each application program, paragraph 37);

a voice processing module executable by the processor to recognize grammars in speech signals received from a user via the user communication interface (recognizer, Fig. 1, element 106 and paragraph 30);

aliasing-logic executable by the processor, upon recognition of an alias grammar in a speech signal received from the user, to convert the alias grammar to an actual grammar, and to recognize the actual grammar as an allowed grammar defined by a voice command application (variation matcher matches the recognized word from the variant database with its corresponding exemplar and from there executes the application action, paragraph 32); and

wherein the aliasing-logic uses a predefined set of correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars to convert between an alias grammar and an actual grammar (variant command file contains each exemplar for the context and all corresponding variants, paragraph 34).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the system of Alshawi to use at least a subset of the predefined set of correlations substantially regardless of which voice command application the processor is processing as taught by Cohen because it would allow the system to perform speech recognition prior to a specific application being chosen hence giving the system greater capabilities.

14. As per claim 10, Alshawi teaches a memory wherein the user profile data for a given user is stored in memory in the platform during a voice command session with the given user (server has a memory with customized context files for users, paragraph 75).

15. As per claim 11, Alshawi teaches a provisioning-logic for receiving a set of user-defined correlations between alias grammars and actual grammars (customization module, paragraph 77).

16. As per claim 12, Alshawi teaches the provisioning-logic comprises a web interface accessible by a user via a computer network (user can use a web browser to access the context customizer, paragraph 74).

17. As per claim 13, Alshawi teaches the telecommunications network comprises a wireless communication link (cellular network, paragraph 25).

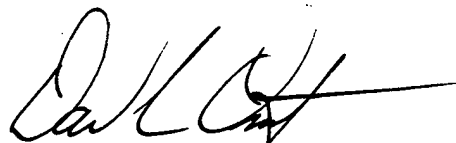
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew J Sked whose telephone number is (571) 272-7627. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00 am - 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L Ometz can be reached on (571)272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MS
5/10/05



DAVID L. OMETZ
PRIMARY EXAMINER